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6-22-1786

### John Kean to Susan Livingston, June 22, 1786

John Kean

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Wednesday -

I arrived at Bethlehem & found a party from New York consisting of Mr. Van Berkel, Mr. Gouverneur, Mr. Chapman & Mr. Johnson as they mean to leave this on Friday I embrace the opportunity of laying my soul open to you —

The road from Easton to this place is less improved, more woody & barren than any I have yet passed — the woodiness & infrequency of settlements put me in mind of my own country —

I am much pleased with this place, the situation is pleasant, the



air & water good - the inhabitants  
quiet, inoffensive & industrious, I would  
that I could say so of all mankind -  
their machinery I had heard so much  
of that I did not find ~~it~~ <sup>them</sup> wonderful -  
many of them are <sup>in want</sup> ~~out~~ of repair -

Thursday -

Tomorrow I go to Nazareth and  
on Monday I shall begin to turn  
my face to the northward - for it  
is there I expect; to see - to hear - to touch -  
her in whom my happiness is centered -

I think my health mends, my  
strength & appetite I conceive to be  
on the increase - these are pleasing



reflections, ~~as~~ they involve not only  
my own happiness —

See what you have subjected  
yourself to by ordering me to write to  
you — a parcel of dull observations  
on a subject with which you are  
much better acquainted than myself —  
but I will not make an apology. To  
please you is my great desire, if  
I do this I am rewarded beyond the  
power of words to express —

I mean to return by a different  
route from that which I took to get  
here —

I hope Linher has arrived and  
brought on, one or more Colleagues



to my friend Pinckney — it sometimes  
dwells on my mind for a moment,  
how unlucky it is that I am obliged  
to be absent — but you my dear  
Susan are too precious for me to  
sacrifice myself —  
Adieu

Remember health is the basis  
of all happiness — without it all  
other blessings are as nothing —  
— therefore be careful — you have  
now taken upon yourself a double  
charge — anothers as well as your  
own happiness —

Bethlehem June 22<sup>d</sup> 86.